THE

Humble ADDRESS

OF A

FREE-CITIZEN,

TO HIS

BRETHREN,

THE

FREE-ELECTORS

AND

CITIZENS

OF

DUBLIN.

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Printed by Augustus Long, under *Wolfe's Coffee-house*, in *Essex-street*. M,dcc,xlviii.

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Printed by Anketell Dove, under Mr. M'K's Coffee-
House, in Dame-Street. M DCC XVIII.

The humble ADDRESS of a Free-Citizen to his Brethren the Free-Electors and Citizens of *Dublin*.

Much Honoured Brethren and Fellow Citizens,

A Very valuable Member of your Body, one of your Fellow-Brethren, a free Citizen, has lately addreſſed you in very Strong and Pathetic Diſcourſes: He has ſhewn you your Duty, as Free-Electors, how qualify'd ought to be the Subject of your Choice; and, as Free Citizens, he has laid before your Eyes the Dangers that threaten your Priviledges and Liberties, ſhould your Choice fall on Perſons engaged, by their Offices, to that Body, which, for ſo many years paſt, has been ſtriving to deprive you of your BIRTH-RIGHT.

Had

Had that worthy Member propoſed to your Choice any other but himſelf, I moſt ſincerely own I would have given my Vote for that Perſon. For as I admit, and firmly adhere to the Principles he has ſet forth in his four printed Addreſſes, I muſt, of Conſequence, have been fully perſuaded that the Perſon, he would have recommended, would have had thoſe good Qualities which he ſo ſurely and wiſely requires in your Repreſentatives. But, when I ſee this, *our good Brother*, enumerate all theſe Qualifications, and then offer himſelf for a Candidate to repreſent you in Parliament, I cannot but grow Jealous, and fear that, as he ſays, * a Serpent lies hid in the Graſs. I ingeniouſly and ſincerely own, that I ſhould think him a very fit Perſon to be your Repreſentative, had he leſs of that Pride and Ambition which he ſo much boaſts of †, and a better Fortune; or, at leaſt, ſuch a one as would keep up ſuch a Grandeur and State as became ſuch a Station. But as the Caſe is, who can or will engage, that once Elected, and introduced in the Houſe, he will be able to ſupport his Integrity againſt the Allurements of Ambition and the Terrors of Poverty. Six or Seven motherleſs Children, and an indifferent Fortune, are not weak Motives to prompt *a Man in ſuch a melancholy Situation* to learn to bend the Knee before *Baal*, or to Pay Adoration to the *Molten Calf*, and to barter his GOODLY INHERITANCE for a Meſs of Potage. ‡ Daily Experience teaches us, that thoſe pretended Patriots who ſet up, and cry louder for Liberty, are but ſo many barking Dogs which are ſoon ſilenced, if you throw a good—a fat Bone into their Mouths; a Poſt, a Place of Profit, or a Penſion, will ſoon turn the Scale. §

He

* Third Addreſs, Page 11.
† Second Addreſs, Page 6.
‡ Third Addreſs, Page 4.
§ I have heard of one of thoſe barking Gentlemen, who uſed to make very long and melancholy Complaints of ſeveral publick grievances, of abuſes in the Government, of the great and imminent

He tells you * " That it was the Virtue and Freedom
" of the Tradeſmen of *London* alone prevented many
" anticonſtitutional Bills being carried into Execution,
" that had paſſed both Houſes of Parliament." The Fact is true, if, as I ſuppoſe, that by Tradeſmen he underſtands the Merchants. But as an Error in this may, perhaps, make it inſignificant to you whom you ſhall chooſe, a Merchant or a Tradeſman, give me leave, *dear Brethren*, in the words of the great Sir *Richard Steele*, † to obſerve to you;

" That the City of *Dublin* is the moſt Trading City
" of *Ireland*.

" That it is, or ought, in almoſt every Circumſtance,
" to be followed in its declared Sentiments by all other
" Corporations of this Kingdom.

" That therefore none ought to repreſent her in Parli-
" ament, but Perſons actually in Trade,

" That the *honourable* Name of a Trader cannot and
" ought not be apply'd to any but Merchants, who are
" concerned in Exports and Imports.

" That all other Traders are only ſubordinate to
" them, and are no other than Mechanics, who either
" prepare our Manufactures for the Merchant for Ex-
" portation, or are the Retailers and Diſperſers of
" foreign Commodities, when imported by the Mer-
" chant

minent dangers, which threatened the Liberties of his fellow Subjects. A late Miniſter ſent for him, and addreſſing himſelf to him, *My dear Friend*, ſays he, *what you ſay is but too true: but I have thought of an Expedient which will ſet all things right, and that very ſoon.* Our Patriot overjoyed, asked what it was? *You muſt know*, ſaid the Miniſter, *there is a place of five hundred a Year fallen this very Morning, which I intend to put you in Poſſeſſion of.* The polite Patriot, thanked him, made a bow, and went away ſatisfied in his Conſcience, that he, and his Fellow-Subjects were the happieſt People under the Sun. *A Word to the Wiſe.*

* Second Addreſs, Page 7.
† The *Engliſhman*, No. 3.

" chant to go abroad, in exchange for those of our own
" growth. And,

" That such are the only proper Judges of Trade,
" and of what may be wanting to promote and encou-
" rage the same. These only can go to the Fountain-
" head, and see the Cause of the Declension, or In-
" crease of our Trade. The Farmer may wonder, that
" his Wool, Corn, or Butter doth not come to so good
" a Market this Year, as it did the last; The Weaver,
" that he has not so many Looms going as he had a
" few Months ago; The Clothier, Draper, Butcher,
" Chandler, and Tanner, that they have not so great
" a Demand for their Goods from the Merchant.
" The Farmer, Clothier, Draper, Butcher, Chandler,
" and Tanner may, indeed, lament each other, be-
" moan the loss of their Trade, but know nothing of
" the real Cause of its Declension; they sensibly find
" the stream diverted from its old Course, but do not
" see the Dam that stops its flowing, or the new Chan-
" nel that conveys it from them. It is the Merchant
" only that has the Science, and sees Trade in its
" naked Principles and its first Causes. Thro' his ex-
" tensive Correspondence, he immediately sees the de-
" signs of Foreigners, either slily to undermine it, o
" boldly to invade it and ravish it from us; he imme-
" diately flies to his Sovereign and to the whole Legis-
" lative Body, to protect it. The Merchants are like
" so many Centinels placed in all the Nations of the
" World to watch over and defend Trade. And will
" not this City choose such as these for her Repre-
" sentatives? Will she, who subsists wholly by Trade,
" rather choose such as are unacquainted with it, even
" in Theory? No, I dare not think so meanly of that
" wise and *Honourable Body*, but promise myself that
" you, *My much Honoured Brethren*, will choose for
" your Representative a Trader—that is, a Merchant;
" for no others properly deserve that Appellation, or

" can

" can be eſteemed proper Repreſentatives for the Port," —the City of *Dublin*, — for a free Trading People. Look about you therefore and ſee if, among the Merchants of this Great City, you will not find out a Perſon endowed with ſuch Qualifications as have been recommended to you; a Perſon who has reſiſted your Oppreſſors, who has taken your Intereſt in hand on ſeveral Occaſions, who has ſtood up in defence of your Rights and Priviledges, who has ſerved the Society in ſeveral Offices amongſt you, with Credit and Honour, and who, in ſhort, has a Fortune ſufficient to put him above the Suſpicion of being tempted and Corrupted by Bribes; ſuch is the Man I wou'd recommend to your Choice, and for whom I will — I ſhall give my Vote.

I am

Your Affectionate *Brother*,

and *Fellow-Citizen*,

HIBERNICUS.

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